

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 5, with the following rewritten three paragraphs:

-- In one preferred embodiment of the present invention a resistive means coupled between load current switch 3 and charge/discharge terminal 6, shown in Fig. 1 as resistor 4, acts as a current sensor to determine the magnitude of the charge or discharge current. In another preferred embodiment of the present invention the transmission resistance of the load-current switch 3 may be utilized as the current sensing resistance.

Comparators D1, D2 of the control logic 10 are arranged to recognize a battery-side over- or under-voltage, respectively, and the comparator output signals trigger the opening of load switch 3 in the event of an over- or under-voltage.

With the exception of capacitors, at least all circuit elements of low power losses are integrated on one chip. In addition, but again excluding capacitors, all parts of the circuit can be integrated on the chip, including the load switch 3, the short-circuit switch 20, and the fusible link 2.--